

6 October 1981  
MLD-1039

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, FBIS

FROM: Chief, London Bureau

THROUGH: Acting Chief, Operations Group

SUBJECT: Monthly Report -- London Bureau -- September 1981

I. GENERAL

The new high-speed circuit to [ ] became fully operational on 30 September after a number of minor technical hitches had been cleared up. [ ] has reported its pleasure with the new circuit.

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II. OPERATIONS

A. Editorial/Monitorial

1. For yet another month Poland remained at the forefront of Bureau attention and effort. An additional voice line to Austrian Bureau was booked for the first part of the Solidarity congress, which lasted 6 days and ran concurrently with unprecedentedly large-scale Soviet military exercises in the Baltic and Belorussia. The strong reactions to the congress by the Polish party and government and the USSR's expressed concern over the growth of anti-Sovietism appeared to be a prelude to a declaration of a state of emergency, and an open watch on Warsaw radio was instituted on the 18th. The watch lasted 10 days and caused a severe strain on monitorial resources, coming as it did at the same time as lengthy live relays of a 2-day Sejm session at which Jaruzelski said the military could be used to enforce the law. REUTER then reported that extra army patrols were seen on Warsaw streets, but this was unconfirmed by primary sources.

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Polish media reportage on the second part of Solidarity's congress has been much less comprehensive than it was on the first part.

2. Last month's resolution of PARS' transmitter problems was followed in September by a major expansion of its English-language service to five transmissions per day, including Fridays. All casts have been placed on coverage except the poorly received 1700 cast, which is temporarily being taken by Gulf Bureau until reception improves in the winter. The split coverage of Tripoli Domestic established during the Gulf of Sidra crisis continues, with Nicosia Bureau sending processing advisories on its early morning monitoring.

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3. Although wordage picked up in September, except for the Polish situation, it was a fairly dull month.
4. PMU's Italian monitor Julian Haxby began preparing West European press reaction reports, primarily on U.S. foreign policy issues. The first concerned reaction to Secretary of State Haig's talks with West German leaders.
5. Pre-employment processing has begun on a promising applicant for the PMU vacancy. The applicant tested equally well in Russian, Polish and French.
6. ELAD assumed coverage of the Scandinavian press while a PMU monitor was on leave 8-18 September.

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3. At [ ] request an advance copy of "Soviet Military Power" released by the Pentagon was obtained from the Embassy.

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### III. ADMINISTRATION

- A. Associate Editor [ ] returned from an extended TDY in Abidjan on 25 September.
- B. Bureau staff engineer [ ] and wife returned from home leave on 10 September; FCS staffer [ ] here on TDY to replace [ ] departed on 15 September.
- C. PMU monitor [ ] returned from an extended TDY in Nicosia on 21 September.
- D. Teletype supervisor [ ] remains on extended sick leave, recuperating from operations on both hands to correct a painful arthritic condition.

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### IV. VISITS

From the Bureau: Bureau Chief [ ] made a coordination visit to Cologne/Bonn 10-22 September. Also, at the Embassy in London, the bureau chief briefed Mr. Charles R. Bowers, Executive Director EUR, STATE, who was on his way through on an inspection tour of EUR posts, and called on the new Embassy PAO Phil Arnold. Arrangements are being made for Mr. Arnold to visit Caversham in late October.

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To the Bureau: [ ] and wife (private) on 4 September, en route from Vienna to Headquarters on PCS; [ ] C/Political Program, UD, 9-16 September for discussions and orientation with PMU, the Bureau and BBC; Oki Associate Editor [ ] and commentary lister wife (private) on 15 September; CMO [ ] on 20-26 September; and [ ] of OPA on 23 September.

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### Attachments

cc: Chief, Austrian Bureau  
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